

Good day-

I am David Paulus, General Manager of WNOR, WAFX and WJOI radio stations in Chesapeake Virginia.

I am filing comments today regarding the FCC's localism concerns. Docket number 04-233.

My radio stations are amazingly connected to our local marketplace in many different ways. Both my FM radio stations provide local news, twice an hour in morning drive and "break-in" throughout the day, if concerns warrant. My stations provide local traffic throughout the day, and update the Hampton Roads area with breaking weather conditions. When hurricane Isabel struck our area in September of 2003, our stations were a beacon in the darkness, broadcasting in tandem with the local NBC affiliate with the latest information about not only the storm, but afterwards where the public could get ice, generators, and general help to allow them to continue to live their lives.

All our stations broadcast full 30-minute public affairs programming, on a weekly basis to update the community on events and issues that affect our area. Recent topics have been interviews with community leaders, local rezoning issues, and school bus service for our surrounding communities. As recently as yesterday, I received two calls from listeners thanking me personally for our most recent broadcast(s).

During recent major events such as the tragedy of September 11, the space shuttle disaster, the IRAQ war, and the hurricane described above, our stations suspended regular broadcasts to report non stop on the events and it's affects on the local Hampton Roads area. Our stations are active participants in the AMBER alert program for the Virginia area as well as the EAS system (WAFX is a LP2 station).

One of our rock stations, WNOR features a program called "Homegrown" that allows local bands from the area to be played on the station, and also be interviewed. It's become a tremendously popular feature on the station and truly exhibits our commitment to local music. WNOR also holds the single largest blood drive with the American Red Cross on the entire eastern seaboard. Over 1880 pints of blood were donated during our 3-day event. WAFX raised over 280 tons of food recently for the needy, directly in the Hampton Roads area.

I personally hold the position of President of the Virginia association of Broadcasters and am on the local board of directors for the YMCA's of Hampton Roads.

In closing, while I know that it's fashionable to pounce on local broadcast outlets as being consolidated and not in touch with local issues that affect their communities, I find that assumption "laughable". WNOR, WAFX and WJOI in Chesapeake, Virginia know that we're guardians of the airwaves and take our commitment to the local community as our most important attribute. Please take our commitment and my comments seriously.